

REMARKS

Claims 1-44 are pending in the present application, with claims 1, 17 and 32 being the independent claims. Claim 1 has been amended herein to clarify that storage elements from the user's digital history store are associated with events, people, places and things. The specification has also been amended to correct various correspondence from reference characters in the written description to the same reference characters as utilized in the drawings. No new matter was added.

In the Official Action, dated December 15, 2004, the drawings were objected to for not including the reference characters 10, 110 and/or 111 referred to in the specification. The specification has been amended herein to correct such correspondence between references. Similarly, the specification was objected to for not describing elements 135(a-e) of Fig. 1A and 230b of Fig. 6. The specification has been amended herein to provide proper labeling for references 135(a-e) and 230b. Withdrawal of the objections to the specification and drawings is thus respectfully requested.

Furthermore, in the Official Action, claims 1-2, 5-6, 9-18, 21-22, 25-33, 36-37 and 40-44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by US Publication No. 2002/0002562 A1 (Moran). Claims 3-4, 19-20 and 34-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over Moran in view of US Patent No. 6,570,582 (Sciammarella). Claims 7, 23 and 38 Claims 5-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over Moran in view of US Patent No. 6,014,135 (Fernandes). Claims 8, 24 and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over Moran.

The outstanding rejections to the claims based on the art of record are respectfully traversed based on the present amendments and below remarks.

Summary of the Invention

At the time of Applicants' filing, although users could access and share data indirectly among various applications, techniques for organizing and harnessing the data were inadequate. In particular, data that has an associated time reference could be cross-referenced to provide valuable information correlating a user's history or activity in time. Simply put, there was no technology that provided unique representation of user interface elements representing items of a digital history based on unique identification.

The invention thus provides a user interface that makes cross-correlations for events, places, people and things stored in a digital history store. The events, places, people and things are displayed in a way that makes sense for a time period of interest specified via a timeline. In various embodiments, the events, places, people and things are displayed in a navigation portion relating to the time period of interest in way that intuitively expresses a relative presence of the events, places, people and things in a user's life for the time period, where the navigation portion allows the user to quickly navigate to items of interest.

In some embodiments of the invention, based on frequency and recency usage patterns, and/or user preferences, items are assigned relative weights and displayed accordingly in the timeline portion and navigation region of the user interface. Each item that can be displayed

within the system has a unique identification, which may be translated to one or more visual symbols within the user interface.

Moran and the Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103

In contrast to the invention, Moran refers to a software based timestream architecture, wherein temporal data (such as a meeting) is stored in a session storage device which provides permanent storage for different types of data: *Session* data, *Event* data, and *Timestream* data.

(Moran at [0107])

Sessions, Events and Timestreams are all defined specifically. For instance, Moran discloses that a *Timestream* refers to timestamped media data captured on a capture device and which can be played back on a player. *Events* are data representing an occurrence, e.g., a switch in speakers or writing on a whiteboard, that happen at some point or interval during an activity being captured. *Temporal Data* is in turn defined as a combination of *Timestreams* and *Events*. Lastly, *Sessions* are named collections of *Temporal Data*, which represent coherently captured activities such as meetings. (Moran at [0050] to [0053])

Fig. 17 is relied upon in the Official Action for disclosure relating to movement of a playback time indicator 1703 in the timeline interface 1702. However, even if it were true that Moran teaches or suggests the display of anything other than *Sessions*, or named collections of *Temporal Data*, in connection with the timeline (a notion not conceded by Applicants), Moran cannot be considered to teach or suggest displaying elements associated with events, people, places and things relating to the time period of interest on the timeline. In short, Figs. 13 through

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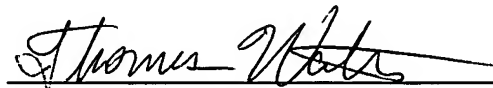
17 of Moran fail to disclose or suggest displaying elements associated with people, places, events and things "on the timeline," as required by claims 1, 17 and 32. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 to claims 1, 17 and 32 is thus earnestly solicited.

Claims 2-16, 18-31 and 33-44 depend from base claims 1, 17 and 32, respectively, either directly or indirectly, and are believed allowable for the same reasons. Sciammarella and Fernandes were cited for reasons relating to the dependent claims (recency analysis and drag and drop, respectively), and also fail to cure the above-identified deficiency of Moran with respect to Applicants' claims. Accordingly, for the foregoing reasons, withdrawal of the rejections to the above-identified claims under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Office Action, and submit that Claims 1-44 of the application are in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and passage to issue of the application at the Examiner's earliest convenience is earnestly solicited.

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